



State of Utah

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CURRENT AND EMERGING HUNTING TECHNOLOGY STATEMENT

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources acknowledges that wildlife species are of significant value to the residents of Utah, who have a long-standing tradition of hunting. In 2020, this tradition became state law with the passage of Constitutional Amendment E, which established a constitutional right to hunt and fish for all residents of Utah. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources further affirms that regulated hunting is one of the cornerstones of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and the primary source of funding for conservation and wildlife-management efforts in North America. In Utah, specifically, the vast majority of conservation funding comes from the sale of hunting licenses and permits and from excise taxes on hunting equipment purchases. Nonetheless, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources recognizes that new and emerging technologies may challenge the ethics — or the perceived ethics — associated with hunting, which may negatively influence public support for this critical source of conservation funding. Moreover, technological advancements have the potential to limit opportunity and influence quality experiences available to hunters in the future.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources will continue to evaluate the use of new and emerging technologies for hunting. Although Utah prides itself on innovation and technological advancement, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources understands that common-sense regulations that limit the use of technology for hunting can help managers meet objectives in species management plans, increase opportunity for hunters, and preserve this important tradition into the future.

